



PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

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Office of Local and Rural Health



Roderick L. Bremby, Secretary

Kathleen Sebelius, Governor

MULTI-AGENCIES WORKING TOGETHER



Several counties from the North Central Kansas Public Health Initiative went together in preparation for a tabletop exercise to test emergency plans and procedures. One scenario was developed, with the assistance from multiple key partners.

The objectives for the exercise included: determining agency lead roles and responsibilities using the incident command system; evaluating the effectiveness of response measures; identifying gaps in local and regional preparedness plans and the ability to coordinate. Action and corrective action reports will be sent out to participating counties following the exercise.

The first cooperative effort between Jewell, Mitchell, Republic and Washington County Health Departments occurred on May 11 in Belleville. A tabletop biological scenario was presented with an opportunity for agencies to identify ways to work together and communicate with each other, should this type of incident occur in their county or the North Central Kansas region.

Eighty-five participants attended: including public health, hospitals, city/county officials, law enforcement, fire departments, emergency medical services, emergency management, pharmacies, Red Cross, area schools, and others.

The following agencies provided people to guide and evaluate the exercise: Kansas Department of

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Health and Environment; Kansas Homeland Security Regional Coordinators; Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health, KU School of Medicine-Wichita; Dickinson County Health Department BT Coordinator; and the Regional BT Coordinator.

This same tabletop exercise will be adapted and presented in Lincoln County on August 10 and another multi-county effort between Russell, Ellsworth, Smith and Osborne Counties on August 16.



DISASTER PREPAREDNESS: THE DENTAL TEAM'S ROLE

During a public health emergency, health departments know that medical volunteers will be a needed resource, however, traditional medical professionals may be in short supply. Planning ahead to train and utilize local dental professionals is one way health departments can identify additional medical resources.

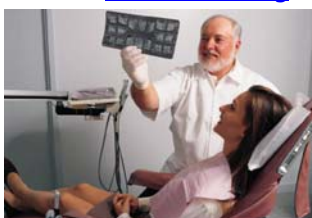


The Shawnee County Medical Reserve Corps presented a national satellite broadcast training for dentists and dental hygienists in Shawnee County on May 24. The broadcast entitled "*Disaster Preparedness: The Dental Team's Role*" outlines the role of dental professionals in disaster response and during public health emergencies. An overview of Category A agents (as identified by the CDC) is included in the two hour broadcast, as well as information about how dental professionals can help local public health in mass dispensing operations, and how dental societies can coordinate for all-hazard disaster response.

The University of Illinois at Chicago – College of Dentistry; Illinois Department of Public Health; Illinois State Dental Society; and the Illinois Dental Hygienist Association produced the satellite broadcast. Emergency preparedness staff at the Shawnee County Health Agency gave a 30-minute update on local public health emergency planning and preparedness prior to the broadcast. Dental professionals were encouraged to register through the local Medical Reserve Corps as emergency volunteers. The Kansas Dental Board approved the training for 2.5 continuing education hours for dentists and dental hygienists.

Several dentists and hygienists attended "*Disaster Preparedness: The Dental Team's Role*" on May 24 and volunteered for the Shawnee County Medical Reserve Corps. Shawnee County will host another session on September 8 from 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm, at the Shawnee County Health Agency Auditorium.

The slideshow for the national broadcast, as well as information about the college of dentistry's Disaster Emergency Medicine Readiness Training Center can be found at: www.demrt.org.



CLINIC HAPPENINGS

Hunter Health Clinic took the first step in the long-awaited construction of a new medical clinic on Friday, April 8 with the traditional ceremony of "*Blessing the Ground*." The ceremony reflected Hunter's heritage as an



American Indian health center, beginning with a blessing by Native American spiritual leaders. The ceremony was also reflective of Hunter's diverse patient population with chanting by Buddhist monks, dances by Hindu and Buddhist women, and prayers by Christian and Baha'I faiths. The ceremony was the beginning of a \$6 million building project that will triple the medical clinic's space.

In recognition of Health Care for the Homeless Week (March 21 – March 25), Hunter Health Clinic provided free dental screenings at the Union Rescue Mission on Friday, March 25. Approximately 100 individuals were seen during the three-hour screening process.



Responding to the need for interpreter services for the specialty care of its patients, effective March 14 Hunter Health Clinic has expanded services in its Asian American Outreach department to include Cambodian, Lao, and Thai interpreter services beyond the primary health care setting. This new office is located at 829 N. Market, Wichita.



(L to R: Chan Phommachanh, Lisa Diep, Veanssna Chan, and Phina Chan)

BREASTFEEDING PEER COUNSELOR PROGRAM

Starts in Kansas Counties



Congress provided WIC with special funding to develop and implement a Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program. USDA contracted with Best Start Social Marketing to develop a research based Breastfeeding Peer Counselor (BFPC) training program.

BFPC are women in the community with personal breastfeeding experience who provide information and support to WIC mothers. BFPC are available to WIC clients both inside and outside usual clinic hours and the WIC clinic environment. BFPC are current or previous WIC clients, have an enthusiasm for breastfeeding and similar ethnic background of the clients they serve.

BFPC work from their homes to provide telephone contacts, make clinic visits and hospital visits outside of normal WIC clinic hours. The frequency of contacts is once a month during the early months of pregnancy and then more frequent contacts as the due date approaches. After the baby is born contacts occur every 2-3 days in the first critical postpartum period, and weekly contacts throughout the rest of the first month. Late in the postpartum period monthly contacts are recommended with more frequent contacts before the mother returns to work or school.

The use of peer counselors has been shown to be successful in increasing breastfeeding initiation and duration in the WIC population. Peer counselor support makes breastfeeding less intimidating and mothers report an improved confidence in their ability to breastfeed. Texas WIC has been tracking breastfeeding rates in their local clinics since 1990. Texas found significant improvements in rates both in urban areas such as Houston, and among more rural areas.

On May 11 and 12 BFPC and their supervisors were trained from 10 Kansas clinics. Those clinics are located in Shawnee, Douglas, Johnson, Wyandotte, Crawford, Lyon (and Chase), Sheridan, Reno, Greeley (Hamilton, Wichita and Wallace), and Butler. There are a total of 13 peer counselors serving those clinics. Several of the counselors are Hispanic and bilingual which will be a wonderful addition to the WIC program.

We have received funding to continue the peer counselor program for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006 and have been told that there will be money through FFY 2009. In the past, lack of funding has been the key barrier to implementing and sustaining BFPC programs. Additional counties are encouraged to apply for funding for a BFPC program for 2006.

Welcome all BFPC. You provide an important service to aid staff in increasing breastfeeding initiation and duration rates in Kansas.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TOPICS

The Kansas Public Health Certification Program will present "Intro to Environmental Health Topics" a special FREE live two-day offering for the public health workforce in Kansas on July 26 and 27. Subjects covered include: Intro to Environmental Health; Federal, State, and Local Environmental Responsibilities; and Principles of Toxicology and Risk Assessment. The classes will be offered in Hays, Wichita, and Chanute, in addition to Topeka (class is full). Presentations will be a combination of live and distance ITV at the remote sites.

This program covers basic to intermediate level material. It is especially geared to new public health staff and persons interested in gaining knowledge of the Kansas Public Health Certificate Program. Nursing CEUs are provided for those attending both days. Participants who later enroll in the entire Certificate Program will still need to attend all classes, as the program is updated on a yearly basis.



To register/enroll, go to: <http://ks.train.org>. You must first "create and account" on KS-TRAIN if you have not already done so, and then search the courses under "Browse my state only." Look for the title as it appears above and register/enroll for your preferred site location. For assistance to register contact Linda Frazier at 785-296-3641 or lfrazier@kdhe.state.ks.us.



**KANSAS ISSUES NEW FISH
CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES**
**Updated Guidelines Include
Mercury, PCBs, Perchlorate**



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP) have issued new fish consumption advisories for 2005. Fish

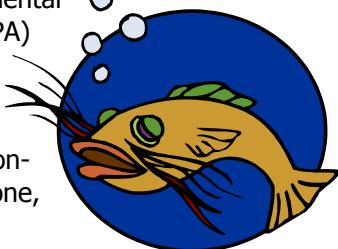
consumption advisories do not mean Kansas fish are unsafe to eat, but are simply guidelines for the public to consider in making informed choices about their health and diet. The advisories identify species of fish that should be eaten in limited quantities, or in some cases, avoided altogether because of contamination found in tested fish.

The new advisories include guidelines for mercury, PCBs, and perchlorate in addition to chlordane; previous advisories had only included chlordane. In addition, the new advisories also now include guidelines for lead and cadmium in shellfish. Trend data from most Kansas long-term monitoring sites show a decrease in the major contaminants involved in this advisory: mercury, PCBs, and chlordane. PCBs have not been in use in the U.S. since the 1970s and chlordane use was discontinued in 1988. Chlordane levels have declined dramatically statewide and PCB levels are expected to follow. PCBs and chlordane degrade slowly, so it takes decades for them to be completely removed from the environment, even after use is discontinued.

The advisories assess cancer risk levels using EPA methods. Cancer risk assessment is a method to determine the added increase in cancer levels in a population if fish in the advisory areas are consumed regularly over a 70-year period. Assessments that estimate the increased risk of cancer as greater than one in 100,000 are determined to be unacceptably high-risk levels. Risk assessments for non-carcinogens (mercury, lead, and cadmium) were based on 8-ounce meal size for adults and 4-ounce meal size for children over 9 years of age.

Ten water-body specific advisories for several contaminants were issued (http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/news/web_archives/2005/01072005.html), along with the following statewide advisory regarding mercury in fish:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued a national fish consumption advisory for mercury, which recommends consuming no more than one,



8-ounce meal per week of non-commercial (locally caught) fish. EPA bases this on nationwide average mercury levels in various species of fish, and recommends first consideration be given to local advisories. KDHE and KDWP do not apply the EPA advisory to bottom-feeding, bottom dwelling fish based on state data. KDHE and KDWP do recommend the national mercury advisory for sight-feeding predatory fish, such as largemouth bass. Additional testing for mercury is underway on sight-feeding predatory fish in Kansas and additional data will be available in late 2005.

Chlordane fish consumption advisories issued in 1993 were rescinded on six stream segments. The following streams or stream segments no longer have any form of advisory: Lower Kansas River (Wyandotte and Johnson Counties), Cow Creek (Crawford and Cherokee Counties), Arkansas River in Wichita upstream of the Lincoln St. Dam (Sedgwick County), Cowskin Creek (Sedgwick and Sumner Counties), Kill Creek (Johnson County), Cottonwood River (Lyon County).

REGIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH MEETINGS

Central Region: Meetings are held at the Reno County Health Department from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Please contact Debbie Whitmer at 785-827-9639 if you have any questions. Dates are:

July 27
Sept. 28
Nov. 30

North Central Region: Meetings are from 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Please contact Debbie Whitmer at 785-827-9639 if you have any questions. Dates are:

June 28
Aug. 23
Oct. 25
Dec. 6

Northeast Region: Meetings are held at the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 SW Jackson, Azure Conference Room, 4th Floor, Topeka, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Please contact Anita Hodge at 785-368-8110 if you have any questions. Dates are:

Sept. 8
Dec. 8

Northwest Region: Meetings are held from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the NW Educational Service Center in Oakley. Please contact Debbie Whitmer at 785-827-9639 if you have any questions. Dates are:

Aug. 11
Oct. 13
Dec. 8

Southeast Region: Meetings are held from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Southeast District Office, 1500 West 7th, Meadowlark Room, Chanute. Please contact Jon Anderson at 620-431-2390 if you have any questions. Dates are:

Aug. 4

Nov. 10

Southwest Region: Meetings are held from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. in Garden City, location to be announced. Please contact Debbie Whitmer at 785-827-9639 if you have any questions. Dates are:

July 15

Sept. 16

Nov. 18

NEWS BRIEFS

No Tobacco Day



In recognition of World No Tobacco Day on May 31, the Flint Hills Community Health Center and the Lyon County Health Department, along with the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association,

and the American Lung Association honored local Smoke-Free Businesses that were on the 2005 Smoke-Free Business Guide. Local smoke-free businesses were invited to come receive their framed certificate, endorsed by all of the agencies above. Refreshments and paper goods were compliments of our local Subway and Three Fools Cafe, both smoke-free businesses. Businesses not smoke-free were invited to come and to learn how to become smoke-free. In 1999 the Smoke-Free Dining Guide of Lyon County had nearly 20 Dining establishments recognized on the guide. Since then the guide has grown to have over 60 establishments honored that are Smoke-Free. Most of the businesses recognized are food establishments, but the Guide is no longer a Smoke-Free Dining Guide, but a Smoke-Free Business Guide.

This is to include and recognize more businesses that choose to promote positive public health in the community, while providing the businesses the opportunity to give their patrons a discount. The discount side is completely optional and the guide is free to both the businesses and the patrons. New businesses to the discount side in 2006 will include Pizza Hut, Pyramid Pizza, Quiznos, and Consumer Credit Counseling (which will provide \$5.00 off a first time visit). New to being smoke-free or new to the guide in 2006 are Golden Corral (went smoke-free May 1), Bad Old



Berns, J's Carryout, and Commercial Street Diner. The Flint Hills Community Health Center and the Lyon County Health Department congratulates all of the businesses that put their customers and employees first, by providing an environment that is completely smoke-free. If you are aware of any Lyon County businesses that are smoke-free and interested in being on the 2006 Smoke-Free Business Guide, please contact Suzanne Miller 620-342-4864 ext 201.

Survivors of Cervical, Uterine, and Ovarian Cancers Volunteers Needed

Researchers want to learn how to help women manage their jobs and how to deal with common job problems when recovering from gynecologic cancer.



We are seeking survivors diagnosed between 6 months and 3 years ago to discuss cancer and their job. Sessions are planned for July. Each participant will be paid \$25. All information will be used for research purposes only. Your identity and personal health information will be kept strictly confidential.

PLEASE CALL 316-293-1880 or e-mail

womensresearch@kumc.edu



Study conducted by the University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita, the Women's Research Institute and the Kansas University Medical Center. Sponsored by the National Cancer Institute to improve quality of life for women with gyn cancer.



Early Detection Works Program Expands Services to Women Under Age 40



Younger women are now eligible for the Early Detection Works (EDW) Program, Kansas' Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening and Early Detection Program. Previously, this CDC funded program

was unable to serve women under the age of 40, and could provide only limited mammography (close family relative with breast cancer, history of cancer or symptomatic) to women age 40-49.

Funding was made available during the 2005 Kansas Legislative session to expand the program to serve younger, income eligible women when needed.

Women age 35-39 who are uninsured and meet income guidelines are now eligible for the program. Women in need of services who are under age 35 may be enrolled with approval from either the EDW Regional Nurse or by calling 1-877-277-1368 (KDHE Nurse Consultant).

The EDW program will continue to partner closely with the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, which reimburses breast-screening services for women under age 50 to maximize state and federal funds. If Susan G. Komen funds are available locally, please continue to utilize these funds as in the past. If a facility does not have access to Susan G. Komen funding, please enroll women directly into the EDW program so that they may receive the services they need (with approval for women under 35.)

The EDW program continues to partner with the Kansas Family Planning Program to provide colposcopy services to women enrolled in Family Planning. This partnership continues as in the past. However, if a woman who is NOT enrolled in the Kansas Family Planning Program is in need of services, please call for a prior approval from the Regional Nurse or by calling 1-877-277-1368 (KDHE Nurse Consultant).

The Early Detection Works Program goal is to ensure that income eligible women receive screening and diagnostic services for breast and cervical cancer. Uninsured women diagnosed with cancer through EDW are eligible for the state's Medicaid program through the federal "Treatment Act" of 2000.

EDW service providers will be receiving a fact sheet in the near future with specific information regarding services to younger women.



Three Children Killed Each Week in Preventable Auto-Related Deaths Focus of Coalition's Campaign

Groups, legislators urge Congressional action to prevent these deadly vehicle incidents

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Most parents think it will never happen to them. But far too many children are being killed in vehicle-related incidents, with a large number involving a parent or family member. Whether they are backed over because the driver cannot see them or they are strangled by excessively powerful electric windows, parents and families across the country are forced to endure the worst tragedy imaginable. What is even worse: these tragedies are preventable.

In an effort to prevent these tragedies, Representatives Peter King (R-NY) and Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) have introduced the "Cameron Gulbransen Kids And Cars Safety Act of 2005" (HR2230), named in memory of a backover victim from Long Island. This legislation would require automobile manufacturers, among other things, to make technology standard on all vehicles to allow drivers to see what is behind them when backing up their vehicle. Representatives King and Schakowsky today joined Kids And Cars and Consumers Union, along with parents of victims from around the country, to highlight the need for federal involvement in stopping these preventable tragedies and urge Congress to act on this sensible legislation.

"All the parents I know would move Heaven and Earth to prevent the injury or death of their child," said Janette Fennell, founder of Kids And Cars. "Still, no parent is perfect and the penalty of just one second of distraction should not result in tragedy. It is vital Congress makes these technologies mandatory to put an end to these preventable tragedies. The opportunity is here and Congress must seize it."

The statistics, compiled by Kids And Cars as no government agency keeps such data, are staggering. This year alone, at least 132 children have been involved in non-traffic related incidents on private property. Sixty-seven of those children lost their life. In 2004, 523 children were involved in similar incidents, with at least 165 children dying. The vast majority of these fatalities were due to

dangerous features of vehicles that could easily be made safer.

"Since 1999, at least 800 children have died in non-traffic related incidents with vehicles," Fennell said. "Many of these could have been prevented by common sense solutions to make vehicles safer that have been available for years. I sincerely hope it will not take another 800 children to lose their lives before the auto industry or Congress takes action and prevents these senseless tragedies."

While some of these tragedies are a result of strangulation in power windows or parents inadvertently leaving a child inside a hot car, the majority are a result of backovers. Many family vehicles today, such as SUVs and minivans, have enormous blind zones that prevent drivers from seeing what is behind them. In some cases, the length of these blind zones is greater than that of the average driveway. Technologies, in the form of rearward viewing cameras and sensors, are readily available that would allow drivers to know if something or someone was behind them at all times. Currently, this technology is only available on a select few vehicles, or as an after-market product you have to purchase yourself. The bill introduced by Representatives King and Schakowsky would make such technology standard on all vehicles. In addition, the legislation would make technology that prevents strangulation by power windows and reminds drivers when passengers remain in the rear seats standard in all vehicles, as well.

"It was a tough fight to get automakers to make seat belts and air bags standard equipment, but they did and this safety equipment has saved thousands of lives," said Sally Greenberg, senior counsel at Consumers Union. "The very same principles apply here: Backover deaths and other vehicle-related incidents can be prevented. The technology is here. The opportunity is now. It is time for Congress to act."

Kids And Cars (www.KidsAndCars.org) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to assure no child dies or is injured in non-traffic, non-crash motor vehicle related event. Consumers Union is the nonprofit publisher of *Consumer Reports*, which measures the blind zones for all vehicles it tests. Information on the blind zones for many new vehicles can be found for free at www.consumerreports.org/co/vehicleblindspots. More information is also available at www.consumersunion.org.

For more information, contact: Janette Fennell, Kids And Cars 415-336-9279 or 913-327-0013
Sally Greenberg, Consumers Union 202-462-6262.

What is Being Done Regionally to Fight Obesity?

Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska Health Departments are taking action to prevent obesity, which is growing at epidemic rates in the United States. What can your state do to help in the fight against obesity?



Iowa:

- The University of Iowa's Prevention Research Center (UIPRC) - The mission of the UIPRC is to facilitate a process by which communities in rural Iowa and the upper Midwest can improve their quality of life. Promoting health and well being through evidence-based strategies fostering healthy eating habits and increasing physical activity are the focus of the UIPRC's Demonstration Project. This project will evaluate the change in body mass index (BMI), several other physical measures, diet and exercise behaviors, and perceptions of community and empowerment in two Iowa rural communities over the course of a year. The hypothesis being tested is that the community with increased opportunity for participation in health programs will experience positive physical, behavioral, and perceptive changes as quantified by these measures.
- The Community Health Action Partnership (CHAP) - CHAP was developed by the UIPRC to bring community groups together in order to direct their attention to health promotion and disease prevention. In addition, a Physical Activity Working Group was created. Activities of the group included a variety of initiatives, such as sponsoring a walking contest in Keokuk County. Over 460 community residents formed teams. The number of steps by participants during the contest totaled the equivalent of almost 62,000 miles. Community members are also planning the development of a hard-surfaced multi-use trail with a long-term goal of connecting the Keokuk County trail with trails in neighboring counties.

Kansas:

- Coordinated School Health - A powerful approach to recognizing and addressing the close relationship to health and learning. Healthy students make better learners and better learners make healthy communities.

- Chronic Disease Risk Reduction Communities - A community based approach to promote increased physical activity and proper nutrition through targeted place-based programming.
- Third Graders on the Move/Kansas Kids Fitness and Safety Day - A physical activity program to increase the amount of physical activity for 3rd graders culminating with a day of celebration on the first Friday of May.
- K-CHAMP - The Kansas Child Health Assessment and Monitoring Project is a public health study designed to assess the patterns of diet, physical activity, and overweight among Kansas children and adolescents.

Missouri:

- Missouri Council on the Prevention and Management of Overweight and Obesity (i.e. Missouri Obesity Council) - This council is comprised of an assortment of health, business, and government professionals dedicated to the prevention and management of overweight and obesity in children and adults.
- The Missouri obesity plan - The state obesity plan focuses on overweight and obesity prevention methods advocated through schools, workplaces, family and community, media messages, health care, and policy. Implementation planning has begun.
- Inventory of statewide programs, initiatives and activities that address overweight and obesity prevention is being developed.
- St. Joseph, MO--Initiated a pilot project to develop strategies designed to prevent and control obesity among older women, a population group disproportionately impacted by obesity.

Nebraska:

- All Recreate on Fridays (ARF) Movement - This program encourages the youth of Nebraska to accumulate at least 60 minutes of physical activity through school, family, and community activities every Friday. ARF encourages kids to get moving in environments that support physical activity and the education of its importance in the lives of children.
- Project Drink Milk - Competitive funding is awarded to four NE schools to purchase a milk vending machine. The school is then required to develop and implement a student-driven milk campaign to promote consumption among students, teachers, and other school patrons. At least 75 percent of the proceeds from the machine must be used to improve physical activity and/or nutrition within the school.
- Physical Activity and Nutrition Intervention Grants - Local public health departments are

eligible to apply for up to \$10,000 in grant funds to create environment and policy changes for physical activity and nutrition in their area. There are four goals for these intervention grants. 1) Increase the number of communities that implement a physical activity and nutrition plan. 2) Increase the number of interventions that are implemented and evaluated. 3) Increase the number of community physical activity and nutrition policies. 4) Increase physical activity and better dietary behaviors in communities through interventions.

CONFERENCE

Prevention and Treatment of Obesity Emphasis: Applied Approaches in the Community with Families, Children, Women & Minorities

September 8-10, 2005

Marriott Hotel – Downtown Kansas City, MO



The University of Kansas Annual Conference on the Prevention and Treatment of Obesity will be a two day conference beginning September 8 in the afternoon and concluding September 10 at noon. Thursday afternoon is dedicated to weight and obesity issues in children, adolescents, and women. Metabolic syndrome will be addressed Friday morning and community level interventions to promote physical activity and nutrition will be addressed Friday afternoon. Friday night will include a poster session on community projects that are attempting to diminish obesity. Saturday morning will be devoted to prevention and treatment of obesity in minorities and individuals with disabilities.

Registration Fees

- MDs \$175.00
- Other health and fitness professionals \$150.00
- Residents, students \$ 30.00
(Must provide valid proof of enrollment as a full time degree seeking student)

Credits Offered

- Offers continuing education in the areas of CME, CNE, ADA, OT, OTA, PT, PTA, & CHES

Registration

Space will be limited, so we ask that you register in advance.

- To receive a brochure contact: Kim Johnson, 785-864-0797, kim@ku.edu, or visit our website www.ebl.ku.edu. Printable registration forms will be made available on the website by June 15.

Co-sponsors include but are not limited to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS); Office of Public Health and Science; Region VII, National Institute of Diabetes; and Digestive and Kidney Diseases.

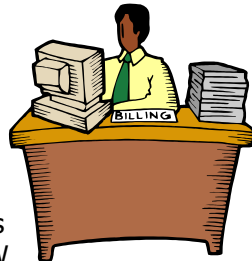
TRAININGS

Billing Workshops

NE Billing Group

Thursday, Aug. 4
Thursday, Nov. 3

Meetings are held at the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 SW Jackson, Azure Conference Room, 4th Floor, Topeka, from 9 a.m. - noon. For more information contact Anita Hodge at 785-368-8110.



Billing Biddies, next meeting to be announced. For more information contact Debbie Whitmer at 785-827-9639.

Billers Anonymous will meet August 9 from 9 a.m. – noon, in Goodland. Place to be announced later. For more information contact Debbie Whitmer at 785-827-9639.

Mission Impossible Group will meet August 25 from 9 a.m. – noon, Reno County Health Department, Hutchinson. Cowley County will bring refreshments. For more information contact Debbie Whitmer at 785-827-9639.

SW Billing Group, from 9 a.m. – noon, Satanta Bank, Satanta. For more information contact Debbie Whitmer at 785-827-9639.

Leadership Training for Public Health Professionals



The Kansas Public Health Leadership Institute (KPHLI) is seeking applicants for its third training cycle (2005-2006). The year-long cycle will begin with an orientation session following the Kansas Public Health Association conference in September 2005.

The KPHLI provides competency-based leadership training to public health professionals from around the state. Scholars gather in four quarterly

training sessions, where they hear renowned speakers and are introduced to vital information about public health and leadership development. Between sessions, scholars complete directed readings and writing assignments in consultation with a mentor.

Interested applicants must submit a one page biosketch and statement of interest to the KPHLI and must solicit a letter of professional recommendation. For further information about the KPHLI application process, see a PDF of the Cycle III application brochure at

http://www.waldcenter.org/kphli/KPHLI_CycleIII_brochure.pdf or contact KPHLI Coordinator Theresa St.Romain at tstromain@kumc.edu. Visit the KPHLI on the web at

<http://www.waldcenter.org/kphli/index.html>.

Immunization Update 2005

Please mark your calendar for NIP's *Immunization Update 2005* on July 28. *Immunization Update 2005* will cover new recommendations for influenza vaccine and an update of the influenza vaccine supply, meningococcal conjugate vaccine, acellular pertussis vaccine for adolescents, and revised varicella vaccine recommendations. The 2.5 hour broadcast will occur live on July 28 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and will be re-broadcast that day from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (CST). Both broadcasts will feature a live question-and-answer session in which participants nationwide can interact with the course instructors via toll-free telephone lines.

The program will also be available as a live webcast which can be accessed through the internet.

Individual registration begins on July 6. You may register at

<http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/phtnonline/>.

GENERAL WORKSHOPS

The Kansas State Board of Nursing lists continuing education of interest to the public health workforce:

<http://www.ksbn.org/cne/cnemain.htm>.

Kansas Division of Emergency Management:

<http://www.accesskansas.org/kdem/trainingnew.htm>

KAN Be Healthy RN orientation and training:

<http://www.washburn.edu/ce/kbh/training>

Public Health Training Network Satellite Downlinks/Webcasts



To view a complete list of satellite downlinks and webcasts go to PHTN Web site at

<http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/phtn/default.asp> Call Linda Frazier, Distance Learning Coordinator at (785) 296-3641 for assistance.

July Downlinks or Webcasts

07/14/05 1:00 - 2:30 PM	Directors of Health Promotion & Education presents: Voices from the Leading Edge For more information, contact Video Communications at the Alabama Department of Public Health at (334) 206-5618 or visit http://www.adph.org/alphtn .
07/28/05 8:00 - 10:30 AM	Immunization Update For more information, view course overview .
11:00 AM - 1:30 PM	Immunization Update (Repeated)

AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS



Look for AHEC's web page at <http://kuahec.kumc.edu> or trainings at <http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us> under the "Additional PH Training Calendar"

NW Kansas – Register or call at 785-628-6128

SW Kansas – Register or call at 620-275-0259

SE Kansas – Register or call at 620-235-4040

To Order Tapes/CDs:

Public Health Foundation Online Bookstore:
<http://bookstore.phf.org/cat20.htm>

CDC BT programs:

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/training/index.asp>

Disaster Site Worker Outreach Training Program, OSHA

<http://www.osha.gov/fso/ote/training/disaster/disaster.html>

Nursing Education

Ft. Hays Nursing: <http://www.fhsu.edu/nursing>

KU Nursing: KU has an on-line RN to BSN completion program:

http://www2.kumc.edu/son/vclassroom/rn_to_bsn.htm

Wichita State University: on-line RN to BSN:

http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=chp_nurs&p=/rntobsnhomepage/

Washburn PHN Certification Program-

<http://www.washburn.edu/sonu> or e-mail Dr. Janice Dunwell at: zzdnwl@washburn.edu

ANA's Web site: <http://www.RNCE.org>

Other Continuing Education Online

The WALD CENTER: <http://www.waldcenter.org>

The Public Health Training Network:

<http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/phtn/default.asp>

KDHE/KALHD Training Calendars:

<http://phtc.calendarhost.com/cgi-bin/calweb/calweb.cgi>

Training Finder: Comprehensive database of distance learning course listings

<http://www.train.org/DesktopShell.aspx>

The MMWR Continuing Education Program:

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr>

MPH Kansas: <http://mph.kumc.edu>

National Library of Medicine –

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov>

CDC BT Training –

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/training/index.asp>

The Illinois Public Health Preparedness Center: <http://www.uic.edu/sph/prepare>

Heartland Center for Public Health Preparedness:

http://www.slu.edu/centers/heartland/programs_public.htm

Centers for Public Health Preparedness:

<http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/owpp/CPHPLocations.asp>

Public Health Training Centers:

<http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/publichealth/phtc.htm>

Other Public Health Workforce Development Centers:

<http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/owpp/resources.asp>

Public Health Workforce Competencies**Bioterrorism and Emergency Readiness Competencies for all Public Health Workers:**

<http://www.nursing.hs.columbia.edu/institute-centers/chphsr/btcomps.html>

Competencies Feedback Project by the Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice:

<http://www.trainingfinder.org/competencies/index.htm>

**LOCAL HEALTH SECTION
OFFICE OF LOCAL & RURAL HEALTH**

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